CIA fears form will spill secret probe

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WASHINGTON — Battered by a decade of scandal, the CIA is being threatened with a new round of damaging revelations by a renegade agent who has been indicted for plotting a political assassination for Libya's Col. Moammar Khadafy.

Edwin P. Wilson, the former agent, is now an international arms dealer and Khadafy's key military adviser. CIA officials believe that unless the charges and continuing federal probe of Wilson are dropped Wilson will disclose:

● CIA payoffs to Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, who stashed millions of American dollars in a Swiss bank account and used the funds to further his domestic political aspirations.

● A CIA-backed scheme to steal $600 million from the Iranian national treasury and give it to the late Shah of Iran.

● Bribes Wilson made to 16 members of Congress to grease the way for his free-wheeling business schemes.

Wilson was indicted 18 months ago for his part in a conspiracy to murder one of Khadafy's political opponents.

In addition, Wilson was indicted for offering two former Cuban CIA contract men $1 million to kill a political opponent of Moammar Khadafy. He and a subordinate were also indicted for illegally shipping high explosives to Libya.

Top CIA officials, Wilson's colleagues and former employers, have told the Sunday News Journal that Wilson has threatened officials at the agency with "graymail" if he is arrested. Graymail, a term coined by lawyers, means a threat by a government official with access to secrets to reveal some of those secrets to avoid prosecution.

Wilson, who is 53, joined the CIA in the 1950s. In the next decade he was involved in several attempts to overthrow Cuban Premier Fidel Castro. He trained anti-Castro forces for the disastrous Bay of Pigs invasion. In an operation code named JM WAVE he was responsible for additional harassment of the Cuban dictator.

He spent much of the 1960s in Vietnam and Cambodia. After his return to Washington in 1971 he bec⸳⸳⸳ ⸳⸳⸳ CIA's ⸳⸳⸳ representative on Task Force 157, a Navy i⸳⸳⸳ operation.

Task Force 157 v⸳⸳⸳ involved in tracking ⸳⸳⸳ forces. Also, it functi⸳⸳⸳ covert communication⸳ Henry Kissinger, Presi⸳⸳⸳ national security adv⸳⸳⸳ the time of the secret⸳⸳⸳ and Kissinger's "sh⸳⸳⸳ macy."

The operation was also ⸳⸳⸳ pingstone that Wilson needed to begin wheeling and dealing on a global scale. According to confidential sources, he used his position and contacts to establish — and profit from — scores of businesses fronting for various intelligence agencies. He started out as a "5-percenter," taking a slice off the top, and expanded into large-scale double-dealing and extortion from merchants doing business with government agencies. It was — and is — say federal investigators and two former employees, an illicit empire stretching from Wilson's $5-million horse farm south of Washington to the Middle East, all protected by the senators and representatives and intelligence officials on his payroll.

Wilson has repeatedly evaded arrest, on one occasion by producing a new passport and travel documents after his were confiscated. According to E. Lawrence Barcella Jr., the prosecutor in his case, Wilson has even traveled in the United States since his indictment, and escaped capture.

According to a top CIA official who recently met with him, Wilson possesses proof of payoffs by the CIA to Sadat from the earliest days of his political career. Wilson also was responsible for paying Sadat's family and aides millions of dollars in "commissions" for military hardware sold to Egypt and other Middle Eastern nations, the official

Patrick Judge Jr., 34, both ex-intelligence operatives, told the Sunday News Journal that they had played roles in the payoffs to congressmen and in the scheme to remove the Shah's money.

Both Judge and Mulcahy have been questioned by FBI agents and federal prosecutors.

According to Judge and Mulcahy, Wilson made the payoffs through his Consultants International Corp. and used former CIA and other military and intelligence veterans in his employ to procure consulting business through bribes, the use of prostitutes and lavish entertaining on his Virginia estate.

According to Judge and Mulcahy, any vendor who wanted to sell items to the CIA, Office of Naval Intelligence, Defense Intelligence Agency, Army Intelligence and others had to use Wilson's firm.

"It didn't matter if it was sophisticated stuff or toilet paper, . . a lot of businessmen who had gone to their congressmen were told to deal with Ed," Judge said in an interview.

"Ed Wilson treated these senators and congressmen so well that when some businessman wanted to sell to the Pentagon or the CIA they were told automatically that Consultants International was the firm that could clear the way," he said. Wilson had also arranged for kickbacks to procurement officials